



HB 1391: Energy Upgrade Navigator Program

Helping All Washingtonians Realize Cost Savings, Energy Efficiency, and Clean Electric Appliances

The Navigator is: a multi-faceted, community and resident outreach program that connects Washington consumers to clean energy financial incentives and qualified contractors for energy upgrades and retrofits.

Washington state has already made funding available through the Department of Commerce, and local and utility programs to support the clean energy transition. Also, through the federal Inflation Reduction Act, Washingtonians can get rebates and tax credits to upgrade their homes and buildings and reap the health benefits and cost savings of going electric. But few consumers and small businesses like hardware stores know how to access these programs or understand how they overlap.

There's a huge opportunity to connect the dots from federal, state, local, and utility programs to Washington residents, building owners, and contractors. Doing so will make good use of these public funds; and ensure that everyone—especially Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, low-income, and overburdened communities—benefits.

What we know:

- Numerous energy efficiency and electrification rebates, incentives, and tax credits are available.
- Urgency and consumer demand are here.
- BUT, knowing which benefits you qualify for and how to layer all of the programs is confusing for consumers.

That's why HB 1391's Energy Upgrade Navigator Program will:

- Create a central information hub for energy efficiency and electrification programs and funding, at a glance;
- Help homeowners and building owners access federal/state/local/utility clean energy funding;
- Connect residents to certified installers and energy auditors, prioritizing women- and minority-owned contractors;
- Provide community outreach and education, targeted to pollution-overburdened communities;
- Support workforce development and quality standards for installers.

Other states already have similar Navigator programs and are seeing success.

Similar programs such as “Efficiency Maine” and “EnergizeCT” are providing residents with reliable and accurate information, saving money, and supporting the states’ energy efficiency goals.

Support HB 1391 to create Washington's Energy Upgrade Navigator Program.

Contact Steve Gelb (sgelb@emeraldcities.org) or Dewi Ali (dali@emeraldcities.org) for more information.

At the end of the day, the Energy Upgrade Navigator Program can save consumers money, make good use of state and federal clean energy investments, and reduce Washington's carbon footprint.